

this could be given them while the different committees of the General Conference are attending to their respective duties.

Our church is scattered over a wide expanse of territory, a full representation of every interest will necessitate considerable expence. All churches, Sunday schools and societies should at once institute some systematic method of raising funds to defray the necessary expense of their respective representatives to the convention, if this is done a large and profitable conference is assured.

The next conference should engage a general missionary solicitor and organizer to continually travel throughout the entire territory of the church to organize churches, Sunday schools Sisters Societies of Christian Endeavor and King's Children societies, and solicit patronage and support for the College and the EVANGELIST, in short to represent and advance every interest of the church wherever possible—A sort of general agent for the church.

The EVANGELIST circulation *can and should* be greatly increased this year. Finally we all *can and should* grow in knowledge, wisdom and piety, if we do not all the advances that may be made in general work will do us no good individually. This is the most important point. The church as a compact is only righteous in proportion to the righteousness of her members. On the other hand if the average standard of the church is very high, if we personally are not honest and true, the high standard of the church will not save us.

These are only brief hints as to *some* of the things that should be done. It will be interesting a year hence to compare this outline with the work actually done. Let us all keep an eye on the work.

JACOB C. CASSEL.

A NEW LIFE.

BY J. D. MCFADEN

The new year is here, the old has gone. The new year is suggestive of a new life.

A new life, that means a new position for work, a new relation with God, a new motive and a new method, traveling a new path with a new

objective point, the back toward satan and the face toward heaven, the old man put off, and the new man put on, the old doubts and fears gone, the new faith and hope made quick and bright, the old sin forgiven and a clear title to heaven, the old wiped out and the new made fragrant with the blossoms of mercy and brightened with the rainbow of God's promise's.

A new life, that means new prayers if you are in an old rut. Sometimes we fall into old ruts and prayer loses fire in the closet and force in the church. Its well enough to pray for the Jews, but if the Gentiles need salvation in your community it's just as well to pray for them. Shoot rifle balls when you hunt a hungry wolfe, and not bird shot. Focus on sin if you want to kill it, and do not scatter amunition on trifles or waist powder on dead devils. Some men ought to be like crabs, they shed their shells occasionally and start new. Some saint ought to shed their prayers and start new, because there is a new life and closer walk with God, a walk that will terminate before the throne where saints are without fault.

A new life, that means a new experience. If a new life forms new habits then there must be a new experience. The man that lacks experimental religion lacks religion. Religion means to rebound. If man is rebound to God, rebound to Christ and rebound to the Holy Ghost there must be an experience growing out of these relations, and he knows he has passed from death unto life. This experience must be kept alive, by clean thoughts, good words, and faithful works, and as it develops man will have the good and Christ the glory.

The New Year has come. With it let come a new life, and he who measures out the years perfect that which concerns us.

Carleton, Neb.

For the Children.

SOME OURIOUS HINDU CUSTOMS.

Among the people of India there are some very strange ideas and customs. Indeed, they do many things for which they can give no reason, except that it is a custom which has been handed down to them from their forefathers and foremothers.

When a son is born into a household it is a cause of great rejoicing. The name of the father will now be perpetuated. When he becomes old this son will care for and honor him, and when he dies he can rest assured that his funeral rites will be properly performed.

The evil spirits are thought to be very near these little ones, and so one must be always on the alert to guard them from danger. At night, in some parts of India, the baby must not be left alone in the dark. When the little oil lamp is lighted, it must be passed three times around the child's head, then touched to the ground, and after placing it in a little niche in the wall the mother worships it. The evil spirit is thus kept away from the child at night.

Visitors should be very careful not to remark that the child is pretty or looks healthful. This would bring some calamity upon it, the anxious mother thinks. To keep the evil spirits away in the day it is necessary for the nurse to take some of the dust from the bottom of her foot and put it on the child's forehead after the morning bath.

When the little one sneezes some one must say, "May only good come!" When he yawns, they snap the fingers to prevent any harm coming to him, for they believe the evil spirit may have entered into him while his mouth was open. To keep the cobra from biting the child, the mother sometimes takes an offering of milk and ghee, and placing it on the white-ant hill, in which the cobra often lives, she prays the naga god to protect her child.

MARY GRAYBIEL.

—LITTLE BUILDERS AT WORK.

Wonders of grace.—"A piece of canvas is of trifling value; you can buy it for a few pennies, you would scarcely think it worth picking up if you saw it laying in the street. But an artist takes it and draws a few lines and figures on it, and then with his brush touches in certain colors, and the canvas is sold for a large sum." So God can take a ruined and worthless human life, blotched and stained by sin and with fingers of love give touches of beauty and develop the divine image upon it and it becomes precious and glorious.